



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108
617-292-5500

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION
REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES
TEN PARK PLAZA, BOSTON, MA 02116
617-351-4500

MITT ROMNEY
Governor

KERRY HEALEY
Lieutenant Governor

ANNE L. COLLINS
Registrar

ARLEEN O'DONNELL
Commissioner

October 24, 2006

Dear Interested Party:

The Commonwealth's *Enhanced Emissions & Safety Test* contract with Applus+ Technologies expires in two years, on September 30, 2008, and the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) are actively planning for the future.

MassDEP and RMV held six public meetings during August to receive comments and feedback from interested parties. Based upon the comments and feedback received at the public meetings, the agencies have begun fine-tuning the working assumptions for the next program and are preparing to draft a Request for Response (RFR). The agencies intend to issue the RFR next spring, and hope to have a contractor selected and in place to begin the transition to the new program no later than early 2008.

The working assumptions for the next contract include:

- Continuation of a combined, decentralized safety and emissions inspection to ensure vehicle safety and clean air, as well as convenience for motorists.
- Elimination of tailpipe testing of gasoline-powered vehicles by exclusively relying on annual on-board diagnostic (OBD) emissions testing, since the vast majority of vehicles in the Massachusetts fleet are OBD-equipped.
- Continuation of emissions opacity testing of heavy-duty non-OBD diesel vehicles, and introduction of OBD emissions testing of light-duty and medium-duty diesels effective with model years 1997 and 2007, respectively.
- Possible incorporation of U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) safety inspection into the program for commercial vehicles.
- An improved vehicle information database (VID) that is better linked with workstations and the RMV's Automated Licensing and Registration System (ALARS) to ensure that all inspections are performed online.

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

MassDEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>



Printed on Recycled Paper

If you have comments, suggestions or questions about the next *Enhanced Emissions & Safety Test* contract and how it might affect you, please contact Christine Kirby of MassDEP at Christine.Kirby@state.ma.us or Mark LaFrance of RMV at Mark.LaFrance@state.ma.us.

Sincerely,

Christine Kirby
Deputy Director
Transportation Programs
MassDEP

Mark LaFrance
Project Manager
Vehicle Safety and Compliance Services
RMV